

Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Friday - June 7, 2002

- *In the West*, another heat wave is underway across *southern California and the Southwest*, causing further deterioration of rangeland and straining drought-reduced irrigation reserves. In contrast, cool weather is slowing small grain development across the *interior Northwest*.
- *On the Plains*, cool, breezy conditions prevail in *Montana*, slowing pasture and small grain development and drying topsoils. Meanwhile, hot weather is returning to the drought-affected *central and southern High Plains*, increasing stress on dryland summer crops.
- In the Corn Belt, fieldwork delays persist in some unplanted lowlands from Missouri to Ohio, despite a recent return to dry weather. Soil moisture remains mostly favorable for corn and soybean development elsewhere in the Midwest, although some pockets of dryness persist in the northwestern Corn Belt.
- In the South, beneficial showers are reducing irrigation requirements across Florida. Farther north and west, pastures and dryland crops in the southern Atlantic Coastal Plain and much of the lower Mississippi Valley are in need of additional moisture, despite recent scattered showers.

Outlook: Showers will linger in the *Southeast* and along the *Gulf Coast* today, while dry, cool weather will overspread the *Corn Belt and the Northeast*. Over the weekend, rain will develop on the *northern and central Plains*, while showers will accompany below-normal temperatures in the *Pacific Northwest* and the *northern and central Rockies*. Showers and thunderstorms will persist in the *Delta* and *Southeast*, but the *Southwest* will remain dry. Early next week, rain is forecast to return to the *Corn Belt*. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for June 12-16 calls for above-normal temperatures across the *central and southern Plains and the Southwest*, but below-normal temperatures across much of the *eastern one-third of the U.S.* Wetter-than-normal weather is forecast for the *upper Midwest and eastern one-third of the nation*, while drier-than-normal weather is expected in *northern California*, the *Great Basin*, northern and central Rockies, and much of the High *Plains region*.

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